United Nations E/CN.7/2014/L.1

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
17 March 2014

Original: English

Commission on Narcotic Drugs
Fifty-seventh session
Vienna, 13-21 March 2014

Draft report

Rapporteur: Gonzalo Cervera Martínez (Mexico)

Organization of the session and administrative matters

A. Informal pre-session consultations

1. At the informal pre-session consultations chaired by the First Vice-Chair, Bajrakitiyabha Mahidol (Thailand), held on 12 March 2014, the Commission conducted a preliminary review of draft proposals that had been submitted by the deadline of 13 February 2014, pursuant to Commission decision 55/1, and dealt with organizational matters of the fifty-seventh session.

B. Opening and duration of the session

2. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs held its fifty-seventh session, including the high-level segment, in Vienna from 13 to 21 March 2014. The Chair of the Commission opened the session.

C. Attendance

3. The session was attended by representatives of [...] States members of the Commission ([...] were not represented). Also attending were observers for [...] other States Members of the United Nations, as well as non-member States, representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and observers for intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations. A list of participants is contained in document E/CN.7/2014/INF/2.

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D. Election of officers

4. In section I of its resolution 1999/30, the Economic and Social Council decided that, with effect from the year 2000, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs should, at the end of each session, elect its Bureau for the subsequent session and should encourage it to play an active role in the preparations for the regular as well as the intersessional meetings of the Commission, so as to enable the Commission to provide continuous and effective policy guidance to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. Pursuant to rule 16 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council, the officers of the Commission hold office until their successors are elected and are eligible for re-election.

5. In the light of that decision and in accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council, the Commission, after the closing of its reconvened fifty-sixth session, on 13 December 2013, opened its fifty-seventh session for the sole purpose of electing its bureau for that session. At that meeting, the Commission elected the Chair, three Vice-Chairs and the Rapporteur. In accordance with Council resolution 1991/39 and established practice, a group composed of the chairs of the five regional groups, the Chair of the Group of 77 and China and the representative of or observer for the State holding the Presidency of the European Union assists the Chair of the Commission in dealing with organizational matters. That group, together with the officers, constitutes the extended Bureau foreseen in Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/39. At its reconvened session held on 13 December 2013, the Commission was informed of the composition of its Bureau.

6. The officers of the Commission at its fifty-seventh session were as follows:

Office	*Region*	*Officer*
Chair	African States	Khaled Abdelrahman Shamaa (Egypt)
First Vice-Chair	Asia-Pacific States	Bajrakitiyabha Mahidol (Thailand)
Second Vice-Chair	Eastern European States	Balázs Csuday (Hungary)
Third Vice-Chair	Western European and other States	Carmen Buján Freire (Spain)
Rapporteur	Latin American and Caribbean States	Gonzalo Cervera Martínez (Mexico)

7. A group composed of the chairs of the five regional groups (the observers for Iraq, Ireland, Latvia, Morocco and Nicaragua), the observer for Sri Lanka (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) and the observer for Greece (on behalf of the European Union) was established to assist the Chair of the Commission in dealing with organizational matters. During the fifty-seventh session of the Commission, the extended Bureau met on 19 March and [...] March 2014 to consider matters related to the organization of work.

E. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

8. At its 1st meeting, on 13 March 2014, the Commission adopted by consensus its provisional agenda (E/CN.7/2014/1 and Corr.1), which had been finalized at its intersessional meetings, pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 2013/248. The agenda was as follows:

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

High-level segment

3. Opening of the high-level segment.

4. General debate of the high-level segment: progress achieved and challenges in implementing the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem.

5. Round-table discussions of the high-level segment:

   (a) Demand reduction: reducing drug abuse and dependence through a comprehensive approach;

   (b) Supply reduction: reducing the illicit supply of drugs, control of precursors and of amphetamine-type stimulants, and international cooperation on eradicating the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and on alternative development;

   (c) International cooperation: countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation.

6. Outcome of the high-level segment.

7. Closure of the high-level segment.

Normative segment

8. Panel discussions:

   (a) Issues related to the scheduling of substances in accordance with the international drug control conventions;

   (b) Substantive issues for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem in 2016.

9. Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem: follow-up to the high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in view of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016.

10. Implementation of the international drug control treaties:

    (a) Challenges and future work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the World Health Organization in the review of substances for possible scheduling recommendations;

    (b) Changes in the scope of control of substances;

    (c) International Narcotics Control Board;

    (d) International cooperation to ensure the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion;

    (e) Other matters arising from the international drug control treaties.

11. World situation with regard to drug trafficking and recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission.

Operational segment

12. Policy directives to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and strengthening the drug programme and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body, including administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions:

    (a) Work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and policy directives;

    (b) Role of the Commission as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime:

        (i) Strengthening the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

        (ii) Administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions.

* * *

13. Provisional agenda for the fifty-eighth session of the Commission.

14. Other business.

15. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-seventh session.

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Addendum

High-level segment: progress achieved and challenges in implementing the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem

A. Opening of the high-level segment

1. The high-level segment of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs was held on 13 and 14 March 2014. The high-level segment was opened by the Chair of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission. A total of [...] States participated in the high-level segment.

2. The theme for the general debate of the high-level segment was "Progress achieved and challenges in implementing the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem".

3. The themes for the round-table discussions of the high-level segment were as follows:

(a) Demand reduction: reducing drug abuse and dependence through a comprehensive approach;

(b) Supply reduction: reducing the illicit supply of drugs, control of precursors and of amphetamine-type stimulants, and international cooperation on eradicating the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and on alternative development;

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(c) International cooperation: countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation.

B. General debate of the high-level segment: progress achieved and challenges in implementing the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem

4. At the 1st meeting of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, which was also the 1st meeting of the high-level segment, on 13 March, the following persons made statements:

Khaled Abdelrahman Shamaa, Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations (Vienna) and Chair of the Commission

Ceremonial opening

Her Majesty Queen Silvia of Sweden

Nora Volkow, Director, National Institute on Drug Abuse of the United States of America

Michel Kazatchkine, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for HIV/AIDS in Eastern Europe and Central Asia

Representatives of the Youth Forum

Formal opening

Jan Eliasson, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations

Yury Fedotov, Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna

Raymond Yans, President of the International Narcotics Control Board

Aliyar Lebbe Abdul Azeez, Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka to the United Nations (Vienna) (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China)

Ali El Mhamdi, Permanent Representative of Morocco to the United Nations (Vienna) (on behalf of the Group of African States)

Surood R. Najib, Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations (Vienna) (on behalf of the Group of Asia-Pacific States)

Hernán Estrada Román, Permanent Representative of Nicaragua to the United Nations (Vienna) (on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States)

Zoi Makri, Deputy Minister of Health of Greece (on behalf of the European Union)

Carlos Romero, Minister of Government, Plurinational State of Bolivia

Vytenis Povilas Andriukaitis, Minister of Health of Lithuania

Vitore Andre Zilio Maximiano, National Secretary on Drug Policies of Brazil

Alex White, Minister of State for Primary Care of Ireland

Peter Dunne, Minister of Internal Affairs, Associate Minister of Health and Associate Minister of Conservation of New Zealand

Alfonso Gómez Méndez, Minister of Justice and Law of Colombia

Alois Stöger, Minister of Health of Austria

Djoko Suyanto, Coordinating Minister for Legal, Political and Security Affairs of Indonesia

Norman Baker, Minister of State for Crime Prevention, Home Office of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Kembo Mohadi, Minister of Home Affairs of Zimbabwe

5. At the 2nd meeting of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission, on 13 March, the following persons made statements:

Abdelwahid Yousif Ibrahim Mokhtar, Minister of Interior of the Sudan

Sredoje Nović, Minister of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Head of the Commission for the Prevention of Drug Abuse of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Alexander Zmeyevsky, Special Representative of the President of the Russian Federation for international cooperation in combating terrorism and transnational organized crime

Mariana Benítez Tiburcio, Deputy Attorney General for Legal and International Affairs of Mexico

Mama Fouda Andre, Minister of Public Health of Cameroon

Jérôme Bougouma, Minister of Territorial Administration, Security and Decentralisation of Burkina Faso

William R. Brownfield, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, Department of State of the United States of America

Anatoliy Vyborov, Chair, Committee on Combating Narcotic Business and Drug Trafficking Control, Ministry of Interior Affairs of Kazakhstan

Mobarez Rashidi, Minister of Counter Narcotics of Afghanistan

Maria Larsson, Minister for Children and the Elderly, Ministry of Health and Social Affairs of Sweden

Abdolreza Rahmani Fazli, Minister of Interior and Secretary-General of the Drug Control Headquarters of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Carlos Raúl Morales Moscoso, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Guatemala

Andrea Arz de Falco, Vice Director of the Federal Office of Public Health, Federal Department of Home Affairs of Switzerland

Kou Chansina, Chairman of the National Committee for Drugs Control and Supervision of the Lao People's Democratic Republic

Rodrigo Vélez, Executive Director, National Council for the Control of Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances of Ecuador

Alymbai Sultanov, Chairman of the State Service on Drug Control under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic

Jose Marlowe S. Pedregosa, Executive Director, Dangerous Drugs Board of the Philippines

Mamadou Gnénéma Coulibaly, Minister of Justice, Human Rights and Public Freedoms of Côte d'Ivoire

Montaser Ahmed Omar Abouzeid, Anti-Narcotics General Administration of Egypt

Ahmed Alzahrani, Director General of General Directorate of Narcotics Control of Saudi Arabia

Le Quy Vuong, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Public Security of Viet Nam

Danièle Jourdain-Menninger, President of the Interministerial Mission Against Drug Abuse of France

Juan Carlos Molina, Director of the Secretariat of Planning for the Prevention of Drug Addiction and Drug Trafficking of Argentina

Francisco de Asís Babín Vich, Government delegate for the National Plan on Drugs, Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality of Spain

Diego Cánepa, Vice-Secretary of the Office of the President of Uruguay

Manuel Ferreira Teixeira, Secretary of State for Health of Portugal

Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Home Affairs of Malaysia

Said Djinnit, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for West Africa and Head of the United Nations Office for West Africa

6. At the 3rd meeting of the session, on 14 March, the following persons made statements:

Piotr Jablonski, Director of the National Bureau for Drug Prevention of Poland

Astrid Nokleberg Heiberg, State Secretary, Ministry of Health and Care Services of Norway

James Agalga, Deputy Minister of Interior of Ghana

Horacio Nogués Zubizarreta, Permanent Representative of Paraguay to the United Nations (Vienna)

Filippo Formica, Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations (Vienna)

Chaikasem Nitisiri, Minister of Justice of Thailand

Volodymyr Tymoshenko, Head of the State Service on Drugs Control of Ukraine

Sumit Bose, Finance Secretary of India

Khaled Mutahar Al-Radhi, Director-General of the Drug Control Department, Ministry of Interior of Yemen

Masagos Zulkifli, Senior Minister of State of Singapore

Jindrich Voboril, National Drug Coordinator, Head of the Secretariat and Executive Vice-Chair of the Government Council for Drug Policy Coordination of the Czech Republic

Mario Antonio Rivera Mora, Permanent Representative of El Salvador to the United Nations (Vienna)

Maria Isabel Fernandes Tormenta dos Santos, State Secretary for Justice, Ministry of Justice and Human Rights of Angola

Hussam Al Husseini, Permanent Representative of Jordan to the United Nations (Vienna)

John Sandy, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations (Geneva)

Julio Garro Gálvez, Director General for Multilateral and Global Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Peru

Ahmadu Giade, Chairman and Chief Executive, National Drug Law Enforcement Agency of Nigeria

Vilayat Eyvazov, Deputy-Minister of Internal Affairs of Azerbaijan

Marlene Mortler, Federal Government Drug Commissioner of Germany

Valentin Mikhnevich, First Deputy Interior Minister of Belarus

Yair Geller, Director of the Anti-Drug Authority of Israel

Georgi Dimitrov, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria

Lars Petersen, Senior Adviser, Ministry of Health of Denmark

Ana Teresa Dengo Benavides, Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the United Nations (Vienna)

Catalin Negoi Nita, Head of the International Department of the Anti-Drug Agency of Romania

Blanka Jamnišek, Permanent Representative of Slovenia to the United Nations (Vienna)

Nathan Smyth, First Assistant Secretary, Population Health Division, Department of Health of Australia

7. At the 4th meeting of the session, on 14 March, the following persons made statements:

Mohammed Bin Saif Al Hosni, Under Secretary for Health Affairs, Ministry of Health of Oman

Peter Van Wulfften Palthe, Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the United Nations (Vienna)

Liu Yuejin, Permanent Deputy Secretary, National Narcotics Control Commission of China

Muhammad Akbar Khan Hoti, Secretary, Ministry of Interior and Narcotics Control of Pakistan

Emine Birgur Fertekligil, Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations (Vienna)

Georg Sparber, Alternate Permanent Representative of Liechtenstein to the United Nations (Vienna)

Mohamed Samir Koubaa, Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations (Vienna)

Masatoshi Narita, Counsellor for Pharmaceutical Safety, Minister's Secretariat, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan

Sadiq Marafi, Permanent Representative of Kuwait to the United Nations (Vienna)

Rustam Nazarov, Head of the Anti-Narcotic Agency of Tajikistan

Yousef Ozreil, General Director of the National Programme for Drug Control and Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice of the State of Palestine

Ashot Hovakimian, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Armenia

Mark Bailey, Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations (Vienna)

T. J. Seokolo, Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations (Vienna)

Mohamed Benhocine, Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations (Vienna)

Alí Uzcategui Duque, Permanent Representative of Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Nations (Vienna)

Ali El Mhamdi, Permanent Representative of Morocco to the United Nations (Vienna)

Juan Carlos Marsán Aguilera, Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations (Vienna)

Elina Kotovirta, Ministerial Adviser of Finland

Dowletgeldi Mamovov, Deputy Chairman of the State Service for Security Protection of Health Society of Turkmenistan

Morie Lengor, Assistant Inspector General of Police of Sierra Leone

Khalid Hameed Al Jjuboory, Minister Plenipotentiary, Embassy of Iraq

Ramón Quiñones, Permanent Representative of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations (Vienna)

Marcus Day, Director of the Caribbean Drug and Alcohol Research Institute and the Technical Adviser for Drugs and HIV to the CARICOM Secretariat, Saint Lucia

Zeljko Petkovic, Head of the Office for Combatting Narcotic Drugs Abuse of Croatia

Ibrahim A. Albesbas, Permanent Representative of Libya to the United Nations (Vienna)

Simon Madjumo Maruta, Permanent Representative of Namibia to the United Nations (Vienna)

Hellmut Lagos Koller, Acting Permanent Representative of Chile to the United Nations (Vienna)

Alison Crocket on behalf of Michel Sidibe, Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), and also on behalf of Navi Pillay, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Shekhar Saxena, Director, Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, on behalf of Margaret Chan, Director-General of the World Health Organization

Alexey Lyzhenkov, Coordinator of Activities to Address Transnational Threats, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

Paul Simons, Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission, on behalf of José Miguel Insulza, Secretary-General of the Organization of American States

Patrick Penninckx Executive Secretary, Cooperation Group to Combat Drug Abuse and Illicit Drug Trafficking (Pompidou Group) of the Council of Europe

Shamil Aleskerov, Secretary-General of the Economic Cooperation Organization

Michel Perron, Chief Executive Officer of the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse, on behalf of the Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs

C. Round-table discussions of the high-level segment

8. Round-table discussions were held on 13 and 14 March 2014 on the following themes:

(a) Demand reduction: reducing drug abuse and dependence through a comprehensive approach;

(b) Supply reduction: reducing the illicit supply of drugs, control of precursors and of amphetamine-type stimulants, and international cooperation on eradicating the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and on alternative development;

(c) International cooperation: countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation.

9. On 13 March, the outcome of the round table on demand reduction was presented by the Chair of that round table, Francisco de Asís Babín Vich (Spain). The outcome is reproduced below.

Outcome of the round table on demand reduction: reducing drug abuse and dependence through a comprehensive approach

The importance of demand reduction based on scientific evidence in the context of a health-centred approach to the drug problem was universally emphasized, and it was underlined that, in the drug control conventions, health was considered critical to

achieving healthier and safer societies. Drug control policies based exclusively on counteracting production and trafficking were not sustainable.

Although not all countries would be implementing all of them, a range of interventions and policies were part of a comprehensive and balanced approach. Such interventions and policies concerned drug prevention, globally and with special emphasis on particularly vulnerable groups such as children, youth and women; drug treatment, both pharmacological and psychosocial; the treatment of co-morbidities; and social protection.

Some speakers referred to the scientific evidence pointing to the fact that the incidence of HIV was reduced in communities that implemented harm reduction services and requested the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to provide the technical assistance necessary to implement and scale up those services.

Many participants reported good results in their countries with regard to reducing the prevalence of the consumption of specific substances and/or the consequences of drug use, particularly HIV. The increase in the use of new psychoactive substances was a challenge in many countries, although there had been some early successes in developing a response.

Drug use and drug dependence were seen as health issues and, in many countries, providing people who used drugs and/or suffered from drug dependence with treatment and support rather than imposing criminal sanctions or punishment had been found to be helpful. At the same time, concern was expressed with regard to countries moving towards legalizing the use of cannabis, as that would have an impact on the incidence and prevalence of cannabis use, particularly among young people.

The importance of focusing on early interventions was underlined. Prevention should start early and many countries were strengthening their capacity with regard to screening and early intervention.

The capacity of practitioners addressing the issue of drugs was also being strengthened, but concern was expressed at the fact that such capacity-building was still not adequate. Interventions needed to be carried out by qualified and well-trained professionals, and must be based on scientific evidence.

Speakers expressed the need to support capacity-building in respect of the full spectrum of interventions and policies, as well as data collection. The standards developed by UNODC on those issues were seen as crucial reference points that needed to be adapted, adopted and disseminated widely.

The need for the systematic and sustainable involvement of all concerned was emphasized repeatedly: governments, municipalities and civil society organizations could contribute to the development and implementation of policies and the delivery of interventions.

10. On 13 March, the outcome of the round table on supply reduction was presented by the Chair of that round table, Kittipong Kittayarak (Thailand). The outcome is reproduced below.

Outcome of the round table on supply reduction: reducing the illicit supply of drugs, control of precursors and of amphetamine-type stimulants, and international cooperation on eradicating the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and on alternative development

Participants expressed concern about the increasing levels of opium poppy cultivation in Afghanistan and noted that illicit cultivation had worsened since 2009.

Speakers noted the need for better information on the number of drug users in various regions in order to tackle the illicit drug problem effectively, highlighted the importance of international cooperation to tackle cross-border trafficking, citing as an example the increasing rates of maritime trafficking using shipping containers, and noted the need for increased sharing of information and intelligence between authorities on all matters relating to the investigation and prosecution of drug trafficking.

Participants spoke of the need to maintain effective control over the precursor chemicals in Tables I and II of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, because organized criminal groups were diverting "pre-precursors" and non-scheduled substances not under international control to produce new psychoactive substances and other amphetamine-type substances.

Speakers referred to the increasing challenge posed by the growth in methamphetamine abuse, and expressed their concern over the encroachment being made by new psychoactive substances in illicit drug markets.

Participants reiterated the importance of precursor control and suggested that stricter controls should be introduced to intercept the smuggling of precursors into illicit drug-production areas.

Participants highlighted the successful reduction in the production of opium in the South-East Asian region and in the production and trafficking of cocaine from the Andean region, which had been achieved through both alternative development and law enforcement efforts to dismantle organized criminal groups. Participants also noted that the sharing of best practices and experience was needed.

Participants noted that alternative development must be based on the principle of shared responsibility, taking a balanced and comprehensive approach, supported by strong international cooperation, the sharing of best practices and lessons learned and the involvement of stakeholders.

Speakers highlighted the importance of addressing the driving factors that led marginalized communities to engage in illicit crop cultivation and noted that only a fraction of communities currently benefited from alternative development interventions.

A number of speakers stressed the role of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development and welcomed efforts being made to put those principles into practice.

Participants recognized the importance of capacity-building and the need for alternative development strategies to be designed in conjunction with stakeholders,

including civil society, stressing the need to work with the private sector in order to facilitate access to markets.

Speakers reiterated that alternative development was a long-term, high-investment action, which, if properly implemented, resulted in improved sustainable livelihoods and a decrease in illicit crop cultivation.

Speakers highlighted that a successful international supply reduction strategy involved alternative development, crop eradication, law enforcement and interdiction.

11. On 14 March, the outcome of the round table on international cooperation was presented by Dubravka Simonovic (Croatia). The outcome is reproduced below.

Outcome of the round table on international cooperation: countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation

Speakers expressed concern about the scale of illicit financial flows originating from drug trafficking and noted that the proceeds of crime could flow through the banking system or formal and informal money or value transfer systems, or be transported by cross-border cash couriers.

Participants highlighted that the disruption of financial flows originating from illicit activities was a major component in combating transnational organized crime.

Speakers noted the importance of a global anti-money-laundering system based on the United Nations drug control conventions, the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, as well as the recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force, in combating illicit financial flows. The key elements of such a system included a national legal framework to combat money-laundering, the establishment and strengthening of national authorities such as financial intelligence units, dedicated law enforcement and anti-corruption agencies, the application of special investigative techniques, a trained judiciary and the establishment of multilateral cooperation mechanisms.

Many speakers emphasized the close connections between drug trafficking, corruption and money-laundering. In addition to the potential of corruption to undermine efforts to combat money-laundering, other challenges included insufficient resources, lack of expertise on combating money-laundering and confiscating assets, the increasing misuse of offshore financial centres and obstacles to international legal cooperation.

Participants highlighted the importance of international judicial cooperation in the fight against drug trafficking and pointed out the particular value of such cooperation at the regional level, where countries shared common concerns and challenges.

Speakers reported progress in both concluding bilateral treaties on international judicial cooperation and amending domestic legal frameworks in the light of the relevant United Nations conventions.

The work carried out by UNODC to establish regional networks that facilitated cooperation in practice and offered platforms for capacity-building, such as the

Network of West African Central Authorities and Prosecutors against Organized Crime, was acknowledged by participants.

Speakers drew attention to the need for a flexible and timely approach in the provision of international judicial cooperation, based on the principle of common responsibility among States. Participants highlighted, in particular, the need for effective cooperation related to non-coercive measures and the identification and confiscation of criminal assets.

Speakers referred to the challenges that still remained with regard to international judicial cooperation, notably in respect of the establishment of competent national authorities and their role as points of contact, the development of guidelines for successful requests, the establishment of mechanisms for the enforcement of requests for restraint and confiscation of criminal assets, the application of the dual-criminality requirement and the non-extradition of nationals

D. Adoption of the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem

12. On 14 March 2014, the ministers and government representatives participating in the high-level segment of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs adopted the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to counter the World Drug Problem. (For the text of the Statement, see chapter x, section x.) Following the adoption of the Joint Ministerial Statement, statements were made by the representatives of Greece, Switzerland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ecuador and Thailand.

13. The representative of Greece made a statement on the issue of the death penalty, speaking on behalf of the European Union and its member States, as well as the following countries: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Haiti, Iceland, Kazakhstan, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Namibia, New Zealand, Panama, Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, Uruguay and Uzbekistan. The representative stated that those on whose behalf he spoke deeply regretted that the Joint Ministerial Statement did not include language on the death penalty, that they had a strong and unequivocal opposition to the death penalty, in all circumstances, and that they considered that the death penalty undermined human dignity and that errors in its application were irreversible. Moreover, imposing the death penalty for drug offences was against the norms of international law, specifically article 6, paragraph 2, of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. The representative underlined the importance of the full implementation of the General Assembly resolution on a moratorium on the use of the death penalty that was adopted in December 2012 with an unprecedented number of votes, in which, in the interim, the Assembly called for international

minimum standards on its use to be respected. The representative welcomed the recent decision by the International Narcotics Control Board to call on countries still applying the death penalty to consider its abolition for drug-related offences. The representative urged all States Members of the United Nations to respect the international minimum standards on the use of death penalty and to impose a moratorium on the use of the death penalty as a step towards its final abolition.

14. The representative of Switzerland expressed support for the statement made by Greece on behalf of the European Union and, speaking also on behalf of Liechtenstein and Norway, stated that the fight against the death penalty was an integral part of their human rights policies and that they opposed the death penalty in all circumstances, including for drug-related offences. In that regard, the representative recalled that the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights limited the use of the death penalty to the "most serious crimes", which was meant to ensure that the death penalty, where still applied, was an exceptional measure, and also recalled calls and statements regarding the restriction of the application of the death penalty made by the General Assembly, the Human Rights Committee, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Executive Director of UNODC and INCB. The representative stated that the silence of the Joint Ministerial Statement on the death penalty was indeed regrettable and that the Statement therefore did not reflect their concern about the death penalty or take into account the position expressed on the subject by other entities within the United Nations system. The representative further stated that they would nevertheless continue to advocate the abolition of the death penalty, including for drug-related offences. The representative requested that the report of the Session reflect that their agreement to the adoption of the Joint Ministerial Statement was given on the understanding that capital punishment was not compatible with their commitment to ensuring that the drug problem was addressed with full respect for all human rights and the inherent dignity of all individuals. International cooperation in drug law enforcement was contingent on full respect by all parties involved for all human rights, including such a fundamental human right as the right to life.

15. The representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, speaking also on behalf of Bahrain, China, Egypt, Indonesia, Kuwait, Libya, Malaysia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, the United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam and Yemen, stated that the issue of the death penalty was not in the mandate of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs. The representative put on record the position of those delegations concerning the issue of death penalty and reiterated that there was no international consensus on the abolition of the death penalty; that the death penalty was not prohibited under international law, including the three drug control conventions; and that the application of the death penalty was a criminal justice matter to be decided by the competent authorities of individual States. Every State had the sovereign right to decide on its own justice system, taking into account its own circumstances, and every State had the sovereign right to choose its own political, economic, social and legal systems, based on what was in its own best interests. The representative reiterated that the death penalty was an important component of the system of the administration of law and justice and that it was imposed only for the most serious crimes, including drug trafficking, and that it served as a deterrent. The representative noted that they had proper legal safeguards in place that took into account national policies that prevented any miscarriage of justice.

16. In his national capacity, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran put on record the reservation of his delegation regarding paragraph 44 of the Joint Ministerial Statement and stated that, from the beginning of the consultations on the Statement, his delegation, believing in the need to promote the cause of combating narcotic drugs, had committed itself to working constructively and with the greatest flexibility in order to facilitate the emergence of a consensus among participating delegations. The representative stated a strong reservation about the reference to the Financial Action Task Force in the Statement, as it was an exclusive, non-transparent Task Force that had been directed and guided by political and biased motives. For his delegation, and for other delegations, any reference to the Task Force should not be interpreted as giving any recognition or legitimacy to it. The representative stated that his Government continued to be at the front line of the international fight against drug trafficking and terrorism and had spared no efforts to eradicate those menaces.

17. The representative of Ecuador stated that her delegation had joined the consensus on the adoption of the Joint Ministerial Statement, which summarized achievements and challenges that remained to be addressed. However, in that Statement, there were specific references to the effect that drug problems should be addressed only in the framework of the three international drug control conventions. In that respect, the representative reiterated her delegation's position that the drug policy implemented under the auspices of the United Nations needed to be revised, as it had been created without considering the historical and cultural particularities of the different regions of the world, which had led to the implementation of a model with high costs, especially in terms of human rights. That approach was now outdated, especially in some countries in Latin America. The representative stated that her delegation's reservations were based on its position that the world drug problem should not be addressed only within the framework of those conventions and that the revision of those international instruments had become indispensable, as they had been overtaken by existing reality.

18. The representative of Thailand expressed the hope that the adoption of the Joint Ministerial Statement would mark an important milestone in the common endeavour and shared responsibility of fighting the global scourge of the drug problem.

E. Closure of the high-level segment

19. Closing statements were made by the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and by the Chair of the high-level segment of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission.

United Nations E/CN.7/2014/L.1/Add.2

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
18 March 2014

Original: English

Commission on Narcotic Drugs
Fifty-seventh session
Vienna, 13-21 March 2014

Draft report

Rapporteur: Gonzalo Cervera Martínez (Mexico)

Addendum

Policy directives to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and strengthening the drug programme and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body, including administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions

1. At its 5th meeting, on 17 March 2014, the Commission considered agenda item 12, entitled "Policy directives to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and strengthening the drug programme and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body, including administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions".

2. For its consideration of item 12, the Commission had before it the following:

(a) Report of the Executive Director on the activities of UNODC (E/CN.7/2014/2-E/CN.15/2014/2);

(b) Report of the Secretariat on documentation prepared for the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (E/CN.7/2014/6);

(c) Note by the Secretariat on the work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC (E/CN.7/2014/8-E/CN.15/2014/8);

(d) Note by the Secretary-General on the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (E/CN.7/2014/15-E/CN.15/2014/15);

V.14-01736 (E)

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(e) Report on the reconvened fifty-sixth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (E/2013/28/Add.1-E/CN.7/2013/15/Add.1);

(f) Note by the Secretariat on the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (E/CN.7/2014/CRP.4).

3. Introductory statements were made by the Director of the Division for Operations, the Director of the Division for Policy Analysis and Public Affairs and the Director of the Division for Management. The representative of Spain, in his capacity as co-chair of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and the financial situation of UNODC also made an introductory statement.

4. Statements were made by representatives of the Republic of Korea, China, Japan, the United States of America, Canada, Brazil, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Afghanistan.

5. Statements were also made by the observers for Nicaragua (on behalf of the States members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States), Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Finland, Argentina and Cameroon.

Deliberations

6. Speakers expressed appreciation for the work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC and its important role in ensuring stability in the financial situation of UNODC and the ability to evaluate programmes, transparency and efficiency.

7. Speakers commended the leading role played by UNODC in the international drug control effort, under the principle of common and shared responsibility and based on a balanced and integrated approach, focusing on both demand and supply reduction. Appreciation of UNODC was expressed for its normative work, data and trend analysis, identification of new challenges, development of technical cooperation programmes, strengthening of institutional and operational capacities of partner countries and regional entities, and promotion of international cooperation and joint mechanisms. In particular, broad support was expressed for the various regional and country programmes being implemented by the Office in the field, while the global Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends (SMART) programme was mentioned in relation to the monitoring of new psychoactive substances.

8. On the subject of full cost recovery, speakers stressed that UNODC be guided by Commission resolution 56/17 and the need for the Commission to assess the effectiveness and further feasibility of the new funding model after its provisional implementation in 2014-2015, bearing in mind the common objectives of Member States in the fight against drugs and crime.

9. Several speakers expressed their support for the implementation of full cost recovery. It was recalled that the simultaneous increase in special-purpose funding and the decrease in general-purpose funding had taken UNODC in an unsustainable direction that threatened the long-term effective delivery of its programmes. It was

recognized that full cost recovery did not generate new costs; rather, it presented in a different way costs that were previously hidden by cross-subsidization. An unsuccessful implementation of full cost recovery would have clear consequences for the UNODC field presence and the Office's ability to deliver results.

10. Speakers requested UNODC to continue being guided by the principles of transparency, accountability and consistency. Speakers expressed their appreciation for the fact that the transition towards full cost recovery had enabled an informed discussion on actual costs and cost-effectiveness for programmes and projects, which would strengthen transparency and the delivery of results. Member States expected cost discipline and rationalization to be exercised not only in field offices but also at headquarters. The need for cost efficiencies was particularly important because high costs associated with full cost recovery could make UNODC projects less competitive.

11. Speakers took note of the guidance note on full cost recovery and requested the Secretariat to continue to brief and consult Member States on the implementation of full cost recovery, as well as on challenges and lessons learned. One donor State indicated that retroactive application of full cost recovery to existing projects with agreed financial frameworks could not be supported. UNODC was requested to continue making a persuasive case for donor support for general-purpose funding, in view of the vital role of such funding.

12. Speakers requested detailed information on the use of programme support cost funds. Speakers encouraged judicious use of regular budget resources, continuous prioritization of programmatic goals and sustained emphasis on the implementation of existing mandates. One speaker requested the Secretariat to provide information on further plans by UNODC to implement results-based budgeting and on progress in the implementation of United Nations-wide efforts such as Umoja. One speaker also requested the Secretariat to provide information on the geographical distribution of UNODC staff.

13. With regard to the strategic framework for 2016-2017, one delegation mentioned that, when addressing the concept of "fully costed" programmes, reference should be made to the fact that the concept of full cost recovery had been only provisionally endorsed. A few delegations suggested that the issues of cost efficiency, effectiveness and transparency be referred to in the draft strategic framework as applying to both UNODC headquarters and field offices.

14. Another delegation stressed the importance of the document providing for full cooperation with civil society and expressed support for further expansion and implementation of results-based management and budgeting. Support was expressed for the work being undertaken to implement the UNODC position paper on human rights, and it was requested that efforts be made to report consistently on that issue in the context of overall programme results reporting.

15. One speaker made several specific comments on the draft strategic framework for 2016-2017, including with regard to harmonizing the terminology used, placing greater emphasis on the concept of prevention, amending references to the United Nations crime congresses, engagement with stakeholders and the need to apply the principles of enhanced transparency and good governance equally to field offices and UNODC headquarters.

United Nations E/CN.7/2014/L.1/Add.3

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
19 March 2014

Original: English

Commission on Narcotic Drugs
Fifty-seventh session
Vienna, 13-21 March 2014

Draft report

Rapporteur: Gonzalo Cervera Martínez (Mexico)

Addendum

Implementation of the international drug control treaties

1. At its 6th and 9th meetings, on 17 and 19 March, the Commission considered agenda item 10, which read as follows:

"Implementation of the international drug control treaties:

"(a) Challenges and future work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the World Health Organization in the review of substances for possible scheduling recommendations;

"(b) Changes in the scope of control of substances;

"(c) International Narcotics Control Board;

"(d) International cooperation to ensure the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion;

"(e) Other matters arising from the international drug control treaties."

2. For its consideration of item 10, the Commission had before it the following:

(a) Report of the Executive Director on the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2014/2-E/CN.15/2014/2);

(b) Note by the Secretariat on changes in the scope of control of substances (E/CN.7/2014/9);

(c) Note by the Secretariat on the challenges and future work in the review of substances for possible scheduling recommendations (E/CN.7/2014/10);

V.14-01730 (E)

Please recycle

(d) *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2013* (E/INCB/2013/1);

(e) *Precursors and Chemicals Frequently Used in the Illicit Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances: Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2013 on the Implementation of Article 12 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988* (E/INCB/2013/4);

(f) *Competent National Authorities under the International Drug Control Treaties* (ST/NAR.3/2013/1);

(g) Report on the expert consultations on new psychoactive substances held in Vienna from 3 to 5 September 2013 (E/CN.7/2014/CRP.1);

(h) Updated information provided by the International Narcotics Control Board on the implementation of Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 49/6, on the listing of ketamine as a controlled substance, and 50/3, on responding to the threat posed by the abuse and diversion of ketamine (E/CN.7/2014/CRP.2);

(i) Note by the Secretariat on other matters arising from the international drug control treaties (E/CN.7/2014/CRP.3);

(j) Note by the Secretariat on other matters arising from the international drug control treaties (E/CN.7/2014/CRP.10);

(k) Background paper prepared by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland related to its notification submitted on 23 January 2014 to the Secretary-General on the review of the scope of control of mephedrone (E/CN.7/2014/CRP.11).

3. Introductory statements were made by the President of the International Narcotics Control Board, the Chief of the Drug Prevention and Health Branch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the Director of the Division for Treaty Affairs of UNODC. An audiovisual presentation was made by a representative of the Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Section of the Drug Prevention and Health Branch.

4. A statement was made by the observer for Greece (on behalf of the European Union and Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Ukraine). Statements were made by the representatives of China, Thailand, India, Canada, the United States of America, Pakistan, Japan, Brazil, the United Kingdom, Egypt, the Republic of Korea, Algeria, the Netherlands and Australia.

5. Statements were also made by the observers for Norway, Switzerland, Ecuador and Lebanon, as well as by the observers for the European Commission and the World Health Organization (WHO).

A. Deliberations

1. Challenges and future work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the World Health Organization in the review of substances for possible scheduling recommendations

6. The flexibility provided by the international drug control conventions to respond to the challenge posed by the rapid increase in the number of harmful substances not under international control, namely of new psychoactive substances, was recognized. A number of speakers highlighted the possibility of using voluntary provisional control measures, as provided for under the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, pending evaluation by WHO.

7. The key roles of WHO and the Commission in the scheduling process were highlighted and the need for Member States to take greater responsibility in the notification of harmful substances for the purpose of control was stressed. It was proposed that the dates of the meetings of the Commission and the WHO Expert Committee on Drug Dependence should be closely aligned and that an effective prioritization of consideration of substances should be undertaken, with UNODC and WHO building a matrix for conducting risk assessments. It was noted that the international scheduling process should be guided by the principles of timely identification, rigorous information-gathering and monitoring, assessments conducted against defined criteria and evidence-based decision-making. The development of a two to three year forward-looking plan, identifying when substances would be subject to assessment or reassessment by WHO, was also proposed. One speaker proposed that a watch list of new psychoactive substances should be established, which would include substances for which intelligence and monitoring suggested that they could be considered for international control.

8. The need to consider placing groups of substances under international control was also mentioned.

9. A number of States expressed appreciation for the valuable work carried out by the UNODC global Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends (SMART) programme through its early warning advisory in gathering and monitoring data on new psychoactive substances, and urged Member States to appoint focal points to ensure timely identification of substances and efficient data-sharing to support risk assessment by the WHO Expert Committee.

2. Changes in the scope of control of substances

(a) Inclusion of *alpha*-phenylacetoacetonitrile and its optical isomers in Table I of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988

10. The Commission had before it the recommendation from the International Narcotics Control Board to include *alpha*-phenylacetoacetonitrile (APAAN) and its optical isomers in Table I of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988. In accordance with article 2, paragraph 3, of the 1988 Convention, the Secretary-General transmitted to all Governments, by a note verbale dated 8 March 2013, all relevant information submitted by the Board and a questionnaire on APAAN, requesting comments from

Governments concerning the notification and supplementary information that might assist the Board in carrying out its further assessment.

11. As at 31 October, 42 States had submitted supplementary information and comments relevant to the possible inclusion of APAAN and its optical isomers in Table I of the 1988 Convention.

12. The Commission took note of the two-thirds majority of the members of the Commission required for such decisions, as provided for in article 12 of the 1988 Convention.

13. One speaker noted that his Government was concerned about the trafficking of APAAN and its subsequent use in the illicit manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants, both domestically and internationally, and expressed support for the inclusion of APAAN in Table I of the 1988 Convention.

(b) Consideration of a draft decision on the transfer of dronabinol and its stereoisomers from Schedule II to Schedule III of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971

14. The representative of the Netherlands, introducing the draft decision, noted that it was based on a medical and scientific recommendation made by the WHO Expert Committee, stating that dronabinol had proven medical usefulness, that there was no risk of abuse and that it was appropriate for the substance to be rescheduled from Schedule II to Schedule III of the 1971 Convention. The observer for WHO recalled that, pursuant to a request by the Commission to WHO to undertake a further review of dronabinol and its stereoisomers, the Expert Committee had responded that it was not aware of any new evidence likely to materially alter its previous scheduling recommendation.

15. Speakers highlighted the important role of the Commission in considering scheduling recommendations, as well as that of WHO and its Expert Committee in conducting medical and scientific assessments of substances.

16. A number of speakers noted that the consideration of the draft decision was based on evidence that was no longer current, and that the recommendation should be referred back to the Expert Committee for further assessment pursuant to paragraphs 5 and 6 of article 2 of the 1971 Convention.

(c) Other matters

17. The Commission was informed of a notification by the United Kingdom to the Secretary-General regarding a proposed recommendation for international control of mephedrone (4-methylmethcathinone), submitted pursuant to paragraphs 1 and 3 of article 2 of the 1971 Convention. All Member States had been informed by the Secretary-General, by a note verbale dated 7 February 2014, and requested to communicate any relevant economic, social, legal and administrative factors by 11 April 2014. The Government of the United Kingdom expressed the view that mephedrone should be provisionally scheduled in accordance with paragraph 3 of article 2 of the 1971 Convention.

18. The Commission was also informed that, pursuant to paragraph 1 of article 2 of the 1971 Convention, the Government of China had transmitted to the Secretary-General a notification containing information on ketamine, which was not

under international control. The Government of China had expressed the view that ketamine, a derivative of phencyclidine and a widely abused psychotropic substance regionally and globally, should be added to Schedule I of the 1971 Convention. All Member States had been informed by the Secretary-General through a note verbale dated 8 March 2014, and had been requested to communicate any relevant economic, social, legal and administrative factors by 16 May 2014.

19. The notifications by the United Kingdom and China had been brought to the attention of WHO, which is to undertake risk assessments in accordance with paragraph 4 of article 2 of the 1971 Convention. Once the assessments are made available, the Commission, taking into account the assessment by WHO, whose assessments are determinative as to medical and scientific matters, may decide what further action should be taken.

20. Some speakers expressed concern about the significant potential for abuse associated with mephedrone and it was noted that it was already under national control in many countries. It was also noted that, despite being under control in many countries, ketamine continued to be available in illicit markets and to pose a threat to public health.

21. Full support was expressed for the work of the WHO Expert Committee on Drug Dependence; the need to provide the Committee with sufficient resources was mentioned.

3. International Narcotics Control Board

22. Many speakers noted the importance of adherence to and implementation of the international drug control conventions, as well as the continued relevance of the principle of shared responsibility. Appreciation for the important role played by the International Narcotics Control Board in monitoring and supporting implementation of the conventions was expressed by many speakers.

23. Appreciation was also expressed for the informative and useful nature of the Board's reports for 2013. The importance of the thematic chapter of the Board's report, on the economic consequences of drug abuse, was highlighted, particularly in view of the financial hardship currently being confronted by Member States. Two speakers clarified specific aspects of the Board's report relating to their countries.

24. One speaker, speaking on behalf of a regional group, referred to the need to strengthen cooperation and dialogue, including through the involvement of a broad range of stakeholders, as well as to invest in drug prevention activities, and expressed appreciation for the work done by the Board.

25. A number of delegates spoke of the need for a balanced and comprehensive approach towards implementing the drug control conventions and also expressed concern regarding recent moves towards the legalization of some illicit drugs.

26. Support for the efforts undertaken by the Board to promote information-sharing relating to the import, export and trafficking of controlled substances was expressed. Support was also expressed for its efforts aimed at highlighting the need to guarantee the availability of such substances for licit use.

27. Speakers underlined the important role played by Pre-Export Notification Online (PEN Online) and the Precursors Incident Communication System (PICS) in

the international precursors control regime. The challenges posed by the increasing use of new psychoactive substances, as well as the continued manufacture of precursor chemicals using substances not under international control, were highlighted. Appreciation for the activities undertaken by the Board to help law enforcement and regulatory agencies tackle those issues was expressed.

4. International cooperation to ensure the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion

28. Many speakers reiterated the importance of ensuring the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes, and expressed appreciation for the work carried out by the International Narcotics Control Board, UNODC and the World Health Organization in that regard. Many speakers lamented the fact that, despite those efforts, the availability of narcotic drugs for pain treatment was concentrated in a limited number of countries. Speakers recalled that narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances were indispensable for the treatment of pain and mental and neurological disorders and that their availability for medical and scientific purposes should be ensured, in line with the conventions, while preventing their diversion. Speakers stressed that impediments to availability must be identified and addressed, including through capacity-building activities, and called for international cooperation in that area.

5. Other matters arising from the international drug control treaties

29. Speakers outlined the national efforts in their countries to reduce the supply of and demand for drugs and reaffirmed the strong commitment of their Governments to the three international drug control treaties and to efforts to curb drug abuse, including of newly emerging substances. The need for a balanced approach to reducing drug supply and demand was emphasized. The importance of regional and international cooperation and of cooperation between relevant sectors at the national level was noted.

30. One speaker noted that a new approach to the complex issue of drug control, centred on social, cultural and historical features, including the development of a new drug convention in the framework of the United Nations, should be examined. The speaker also noted that the fifty-seventh session of the Commission should set the basis for generating change in advance of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016.

B. Action taken by the Commission

31. At its 9th meeting, on 19 March 2014, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs decided by 40 votes to none, with no abstentions, to include *alpha*-phenylacetoacetonitrile (APAAN) and its optical isomers in Table I of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988. (For the text of the decision, see chap. I, sect. [...], decision 57/[...].)

32. At the same meeting, a draft decision on the transfer of dronabinol and its stereoisomers from Schedule II to Schedule III of the Convention on Psychotropic

Substances of 1971 was rejected by the Commission by 20 votes to 9, with 12 abstentions.

United Nations E/CN.7/2014/L.1/Add.4

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
19 March 2014

Original: English

Commission on Narcotic Drugs
Fifty-seventh session
Vienna, 13-21 March 2014

Draft report

Rapporteur: Gonzalo Cervera Martínez (Mexico)

Addendum

Panel discussions on issues related to the scheduling of substances in accordance with the international drug control conventions and on substantive issues for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem in 2016

1. At its 7th and 8th meetings, on 18 March 2014, the Commission considered agenda item 8, which read as follows:

"Panel discussions:

"(a) Issues related to the scheduling of substances in accordance with the international drug control conventions;

"(b) Substantive issues for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem in 2016."

2. The panel discussions were presided over by the Chair of the Commission and led by the following panellists: Fadila Fathy Amer (Egypt), Khalid Aljuboory (Iraq), Julián Wilches Guzmán (Colombia), Angela Scrutton (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Roberto Dondisch Glowinski (Mexico) and Peter Cahill (Canada).

3. The Chair of the Commission and the Chief of the Laboratory and Scientific Section of UNODC made introductory statements.

4. Statements were made by the representatives of China, Canada, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the United States of America, the United Kingdom, Nigeria, Australia, Israel, Colombia, Indonesia, Guatemala, Germany and Egypt.

V.14-01781 (E)

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5. Statements were also made by the observers for Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Jordan, Uruguay and El Salvador.

6. The observers for IOGT International, Release, the Transnational Institute of Policy Studies and the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse (on behalf of the Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs) also made statements.

Summary by the Chair

7. At the 9th meeting of the Commission, on 19 March 2014, the Chair summarized the salient points of the two panel discussions. Those summaries are reproduced below.

Issues related to the scheduling of substances in accordance with the international drug control conventions

8. Concern was expressed about the rise in substances of abuse (in particular new psychoactive substances) that were not controlled by the international drug control conventions but posed a threat to public health and presented challenges to the drug control mechanisms at the national, regional and international levels. Speakers highlighted that the international drug control conventions constituted flexible instruments for responding to the challenges posed by new psychoactive substances and that they needed to be fully explored by Member States in order to maximize the opportunities for action that they provided.

9. Concern was expressed by a number of speakers regarding the abuse of tramadol, a substance not currently under international control. The need to enhance the responses at the national and international levels in countering its abuse and cross-border trafficking was reiterated.

10. The importance of awareness-raising about the scheduling procedures contained in the international drug control conventions and the treaty-based functions provided to the Commission, WHO and the International Narcotics Control Board was underlined.

11. The initiation by States parties of the notification process for the international control of new substances under the international drug control conventions, such as the recent notifications submitted by the United Kingdom and China on mephedrone and ketamine, respectively, pursuant to article 2 of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, was welcomed. Reference was made to the possibility of applying voluntary provisional control measures to new substances while their control status was being examined by WHO, in accordance with the procedure prescribed in the international drug control conventions.

12. Speakers underlined the importance of data availability and welcomed the work undertaken on the Early Warning Advisory, set up by UNODC, in the identification of new psychoactive substances, and expressed their support for further enhancing international cooperation in the sharing of information on new psychoactive substances through existing mechanisms among Member States, as well as with other international bodies, including the International Narcotics Control Board and WHO.

13. Some participants emphasized the need to improve the alignment of the meetings of the Expert Committee on Drug Dependence of WHO with the sessions of the Commission, noting that the Committee should meet more frequently in order to enable a more timely response by the international community to the threat posed by new psychoactive substances. Participants referred to the need for prioritization of new psychoactive substances based on prevalence and harm and for providing relevant information, with a view to facilitating the assessment process undertaken by the Expert Committee on Drug Dependence.

14. The importance of the principle of common and shared responsibility in addressing the issue of new psychoactive substances was reiterated.

Substantive issues for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem in 2016

15. Speakers welcomed the decision by the General Assembly to convene in early 2016 a special session on the world drug problem to review the progress made in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments.

16. Speakers reaffirmed their commitment to the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, in which 2019 had been established as the target date for the goals identified.

17. Speakers welcomed the Joint Ministerial Statement adopted during the high-level mid-term review, which was the result of an intensive negotiation process and based on broad ownership, and which had also identified priorities for further action and was to be used as a common starting point in preparing for the special session of the General Assembly in 2016.

18. The importance of a balanced, comprehensive, health-based approach was stressed, addressing both demand reduction and supply reduction and offering a vital role for prevention to play.

19. Several speakers said that the special session of the General Assembly should provide a platform for developing a new vision and new political discourse to tackle a problem that remained significant despite decades of concerted and honest efforts; that the special session needed to take into account current realities; that unilateral decisions taken recently required an international understanding on how to proceed; and that the drug issue was to be seen and addressed as a social issue that required new and creative solutions.

20. Many speakers reiterated the need to carry out the discussions within the framework of the three international drug control conventions, which had been proven to allow for flexibility in addressing the drug problem.

21. A number of specific agenda items were proposed for the special session, including new psychoactive substances, amphetamine-type stimulants and control of precursors. Among other issues mentioned were the importance of strengthening data collection; education, treatment and harm reduction; and the availability of, and access to, medicines for pain relief. Reference was also made to alternative

development and the adoption of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development. In this regard, the value of trying to focus on certain key issues, rather than trying to cover too broad an array of issues, was mentioned.

22. Speakers called upon the Commission, in preparing for the special session, to take a practical approach, strengthening the operational and global implementation of existing policy documents, making full use of available tools and sharing evidence and expertise that existed at the national and regional levels. It was also called upon to give special attention to the needs of the developing world and the importance of capacity-building in that regard.

23. The importance of a transparent and inclusive process was stressed, requiring coordination among health, justice, finance and law enforcement actors and requiring the involvement of all relevant stakeholders, including civil society, the scientific community, youth and the private sector.

24. The need to ensure the active involvement of civil society, both in the preparations for and during the special session, was underlined by many speakers, and reference was made to the involvement of non-governmental organizations in the work of the Commission, including the preparations for and the conduct of the high-level review held at the current session.

25. Many speakers urged that the best use be made of the technical expertise based in Vienna during the preparatory process, thereby taking into consideration the voices of a wide array of other United Nations agencies.

26. Many speakers underlined the important role of the Commission, as the United Nations organ with the prime responsibility for drug control matters, in the preparatory work for the special session. At the same time, while some speakers mentioned that it was up to the General Assembly to decide on the preparatory process, other speakers referred to the model used in preparing for the 1998 special session, and confidence was expressed that the Commission would prepare constructive recommendations for the special session.

United Nations E/CN.7/2014/L.1/Add.5

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
20 March 2014

Original: English

Commission on Narcotic Drugs
Fifty-seventh session
Vienna, 13-21 March 2014

Draft report

Rapporteur: Gonzalo Cervera Martínez (Mexico)

Addendum

Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem: follow-up to the high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in view of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

1. At its 10th and 11th meetings, on 19 and 20 March, the Commission considered agenda item 9, entitled "Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem: follow-up to the high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in view of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016".

2. For its consideration of item 9, the Commission had before it the following:

(a) Report of the Executive Director on the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2014/2-E/CN.15/2014/2);

(b) Report of the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to drug abuse (E/CN.7/2014/3);

(c) Report of the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to drug trafficking (E/CN.7/2014/4);

(d) Report of the Executive Director on action taken by Member States to implement the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation

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towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem (E/CN.7/2014/7);

(e) Note by the Secretariat on promoting coordination and alignment of decisions between the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (E/CN.7/2014/11);

(f) Report of the Executive Director on responding to the prevalence of HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases among drug users (E/CN.7/2014/12);

(g) Report of the Executive Director on strengthening international cooperation in combating illicit opiates originating in Afghanistan through continuous and reinforced support to the Paris Pact initiative (E/CN.7/2014/14);

(h) Drug policy provisions from the international drug control conventions (E/CN.7/2014/CRP.5);

(i) Outreach to new stakeholders in the field of alternative development (E/CN.7/2014/CRP.7);

(j) Reports by intergovernmental organizations on drug control activities (E/CN.7/2014/CRP.9);

(k) Draft guidelines on drug prevention and treatment for girls and women (E/CN.7/2014/CRP.12).

3. Introductory statements on agenda item 9 and presentations were made by the Chief of the Research and Trend Analysis Branch and the Chief of the Drug Prevention and Health Branch. The Chief of the Sustainable Livelihoods Unit and the Chief of the Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking Branch also made introductory statements.

4. A statement was made by the observer for Greece (on behalf of the European Union and Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Ukraine). Statements were made by the representatives of Thailand, China, Kazakhstan, the Republic of Korea, Indonesia, Japan, India, the United States of America, Canada and Afghanistan.

5. Statements were also made by the observers for Portugal, Norway, Switzerland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Ghana, as well as by the observers for the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the Sovereign Military Order of Malta. The observers for the International Harm Reduction Association, the Vienna NGO Committee and the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America also made statements.

A. Deliberations

6. Speakers reaffirmed their firm commitment to the goals and targets of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, and to the high-level review, in view of the special session of the General Assembly to be held in 2016. Some speakers noted that the special session would provide an opportunity

to examine best practices on demand and supply reduction and on international cooperation.

7. Reference was made to General Assembly resolution 68/197, in which the General Assembly requested the Commission, as the organ with the prime responsibility for drug control matters, to engage in the preparatory process for the special session, including by presenting proposals from its fifty-seventh and fifty-eighth sessions through the Economic and Social Council, in support of that process. Several speakers noted that, in view of that mandate, the Commission should serve as the preparatory body for the special session.

1. Demand reduction and related measures

8. Speakers described national efforts to improve the coverage and quality of drug prevention and the treatment of drug dependence, as well as harm reduction interventions for the prevention of HIV, hepatitis C and other health and social consequences experienced by drug users, including in prison settings. It was emphasized how those policies and interventions, when based on scientific evidence and human rights, were effective, cost-efficient and essential components of a well-functioning drug control system. Several speakers reported the development of strategies based on public health principles, which provided drug treatment as an alternative to criminal sanctions. Some speakers called on Member States to strengthen their efforts in data collection, particularly in view of the 2016 special session.

9. The challenge posed by poly-substance use, including the combination of licit and illicit substances and the emergence of new psychoactive substances and other substances not under international control, was mentioned. Some speakers highlighted the importance of promoting the use and exchange of best practices and of the development and implementation of quality standards in prevention, early detection and intervention, risk and harm reduction, treatment, rehabilitation, social reintegration and recovery.

10. It was noted that the economic austerity experienced by some countries could have implications for the levels of drug use in society, which, at the same time, could impact the provision of services. The need to undertake more efforts in order to increase the availability of evidence-based information, training and technical assistance on demand reduction interventions was noted as well.

2. Supply reduction and related measures

11. The importance of a multidisciplinary, balanced and integrated approach, encompassing demand and supply reduction and international cooperation, was highlighted, as was the principle of common and shared responsibility in tackling the world drug problem.

12. Speakers called for the collection of additional data on amphetamine-type stimulants, in particular methamphetamine. The need to maintain controls over precursor chemicals was reiterated and reference was made to changes in national legislation made by States in order to address the diversity of chemicals used in the manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants and new psychoactive substances.

13. The need for closer cross-border cooperation, including through regional initiatives, in the investigation of trafficking was noted. States were encouraged to apply the provisions of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Corruption in addressing illicit drug trafficking.

14. It was noted that trafficking by sea continued to represent a serious threat. Speakers referred to the challenges of porous maritime borders, while others provided information about ongoing and new initiatives to strengthen maritime cooperation.

15. Concern was expressed by some speakers regarding the application of the death penalty to drug-related offences.

16. Some speakers welcomed the increasing interest in alternative development and the growth in the number of countries implementing alternative development programmes to achieve a sustainable reduction in illicit crop cultivation.

17. A number of speakers noted that alternative development should be based on the principle of common and shared responsibility, with the support of international cooperation, including through the sharing of best practices and lessons learned.

18. Some speakers mentioned the importance of monitoring mechanisms, with a view to improving the design and implementation of alternative development projects.

19. Speakers acknowledged and welcomed the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development and commended the efforts of Peru, Thailand and other Member States in promoting related programmes.

20. Some speakers emphasized the need for continued financial support for alternative development programmes, noting that they were part of a comprehensive drug control strategy, and requested UNODC to continue to provide technical assistance through alternative development programmes.

21. It was proposed that alternative development should be one of the key issues for discussion at the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016.

3. Countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation to enhance international cooperation

22. Several speakers highlighted the importance of inter-agency, regional and international cooperation, using formal agreements and informal networks, to exchange information to counter money-laundering.

23. Speakers noted the increasing use of new techniques by organized criminal groups, including trade-based money-laundering, and emphasized the continued need for training to enhance capacity to counter money-laundering.

24. A number of speakers referred to the importance of law enforcement and judicial cooperation at the bilateral, regional and international levels in countering the global drug challenge, including through the conclusion of memorandums of understanding on mutual legal assistance and extradition, the harmonization of domestic legislation, the sharing of information and the exchange of experiences.

United Nations E/CN.7/2014/L.1/Add.6

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
20 March 2014

Original: English

Commission on Narcotic Drugs
Fifty-seventh session
Vienna, 13-21 March 2014

Draft report

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Addendum

World situation with regard to drug trafficking and recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission

1. At its 11th meeting, on 20 March 2014, the Commission considered agenda item 11, which read as follows: "World situation with regard to drug trafficking and recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission".

2. For its consideration of agenda item 11, the Commission had before it the following:

(a) Report of the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to drug trafficking (E/CN.7/2014/4);

(b) Report of the Secretariat on action taken by the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (E/CN.7/2014/5);

(c) Reports by intergovernmental organizations on drug control activities (E/CN.7/2014/CRP.9).

3. An introductory presentation was made by the Chief of the Implementation Support Section of the Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking Branch.

4. Statements were made by the representatives of the Republic of Korea, the United States of America and Bolivia (Plurinational State of). A statement was also made by the observer for Kenya.

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Deliberations

5. Speakers welcomed the report of the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to drug trafficking and commented on the importance of the availability of comprehensive data in order to analyse trends in illicit drug production and trafficking.

6. Some speakers stated that the quality of the information on drug cultivation and production, as well as of the seizure data, as collected by UNODC, was essential in assisting the international community and national policymakers in better understanding the nature and scope of the world trafficking situation. Member States were encouraged to support the data collection, research, crop monitoring surveys and reporting undertaken by UNODC and to ensure that their own data-collection tools were adequate.

7. Speakers highlighted the need to strengthen cooperation among law enforcement authorities at the bilateral, regional and international levels in order to effectively counter drug trafficking.

8. Speakers expressed concern regarding recent increases in the trafficking and production of amphetamine-type stimulants, notably methamphetamine, and noted that the trafficking of such stimulants through the Internet was on the rise. There was a call for more international cooperation and sharing of information related to the trafficking of amphetamine-type stimulants and their precursor chemicals. Reference was also made to increasing interceptions of pharmaceutical preparations for non-medical use.

9. Speakers noted the valuable contribution of the meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies and of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East to the work of the Commission. The representative of Kenya informed the Commission that his Government had offered to host the Twenty-fourth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa, from 15 to 19 September 2014. He stated that the meeting would provide African States with the opportunity to, inter alia, share best practices on countering drug trafficking, establish mechanisms for monitoring new trends within the region and enhance cross-border law enforcement through the sharing of intelligence and best practices.